



Longhorsley Church Of England First School News

Autumn 1 - October 2024 Newsletter

Another half term is flying by. Hope you all enjoy your week's break that is coming up in a couple of weeks time and we look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 4th November for Autumn Term 2!

School Photographs

Shutterbugz will be in school on Monday morning to take individual and sibling photographs. Please make sure that your children come in looking their best for a lovely memory for you (and maybe even Christmas presents for relatives!). Any Nursery children who are in on Monday will have their photographs taken too. If you would like a photograph taken of your Nursery child and it isn't their day in school, please bring them along for 9.30am.

Robinwood Trip for Year 4 May 2025:

Next year, our annual Year 4 residential visit has been arranged again with Cambo, Whalton and Longhorsley children. It will take place from Monday 12th - Wednesday 14th May 2025 at Robinwood Activity Centre, Barhaugh Hall, Alston.

Robinwood holds 'Learning Outside the Classroom' accreditation and has "fantastic indoor provision for three challenging high activities; an impressive climbing wall, crate challenge with emphasis on teamwork and trapeze with platform options to leap from two different levels. Indoor provision means that these high activities can continue whatever the weather, but we will also be using the outdoor trapeze in the trees in the grounds at Barhaugh Hall as an option in good weather.



There are further indoor areas in the grounds for the Dungeon and Piranha Pool; wonderful themed problem solving areas developed by the Robinwood staff team. However, the best thing about it is the opportunity for the children to mix with and meet their Federation friends/neighbours and other children who will also be moving on to our local middle schools in Year 5, as well as challenging themselves physically and mentally -all mixed with a huge amount of fun!

School will be subsidising the costs of the residential by £50 per pupil from its sports premium funding so it remains at the same cost from previous years which is £200. There will be the opportunity to pay this in full or in instalments. All information needed will be shared nearer the time at the Parents' meeting.

Font Alliance Logo Competition

As you know, we have recently joined with other local schools to become the Font Alliance and as a group of schools think it would be a great idea to have a logo to show our commitment to this partnership. To this end, we invite all children to come up with creative ideas for the logo and we will share a poster with more information. The winning logo will be announced on Friday 8th November. Deadline for entries is Monday 4th November, after half term, and is a lovely activity for the half term holidays or before. There will be a box in the school entrance for children to post their ideas! Electronic versions are welcomed too via longhorsleyadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk

Swimming and Sports Hall for next half term:

From Tuesday 5th November, Class 3 & 4 (Year 3 & 4) will be swimming at the Morpeth Sports & Leisure Centre.

The children travel by coach and are dropped off and picked up at the Leisure Centre. Please can children avoid leggings as they are difficult to pull on after swimming, tracksuit bottoms are preferable - many thanks!



Class 2 (Years 1 & 2) are also going to Morpeth Sports & Leisure Centre every Tuesday. They will be taught basic gross motor skills - running, jumping, throwing and kicking to use in games.

Please can PE kit be worn for this class too and they will need their water bottle as always.

Many thanks to the parent helpers for their support, you are invaluable.

Year 4 Rugby Tag Festival - 7th November

The Year 4 children will be going to Ponteland to take part in a Places Leisure (formerly Active Northumberland) Outdoor Adventurous Activities themed festival, the aim of this festival is to develop young people's tag rugby skills through a range of activities and some fun small sided games.

They will be leaving school at 9.00am and returning in time for lunch. Please can they come to school dressed in PE Kit and bring their water bottle.



Football Tournament

We are having our very first football tournament as part of the Font Alliance at Ponteland Community Primary School on Monday 11th November at 4pm. We are still looking for a show of interest for this (Thank you to those who have already signed up). It is aimed at Years 3 and 4. For more information or to sign up please follow this [link](#).

Pupil Progress Meetings

These are taking place in the school hall next Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th October. Appointments for your ten minute slots are in the children's reading diaries. There will be a colouring table in the hall for children.

Parent Settling in & Nursery Progress Meetings

These will take place in November and further details will be circulated to nursery parents.

After School Clubs

The Drama Club has been a real success and will continue next half term. This club will be on Monday from 3.20 to 4.30pm and will cost £5.00 per week. Details on how to book will be circulated next week, there is a maximum of 20 places. Please note as this is an outside organisation running the club, costs are non-refundable.

Great Oaks are also continuing their Forest School on Thursdays, as will Dance Club. Bookings are made directly with them. Details will be circulated next week. Both clubs will not be running on the 12th December due to the Christmas Performance in school.

Longhorsley Mission After School Bible Club also starts again on Friday 18th October. To book your child in, please book in at longhorsleyasbc.simplybook.it by 6.00pm the day before, to ensure they have enough helpers.

Teacher Training Day:

Just a reminder that school has a teacher training day on Friday 25th October, which is a great opportunity to get away for the half term break earlier and miss the rush, as well as saving some pennies!

School Dinners and Packed Lunches:

Longhorsley St Helen's First School has a Healthy School Policy for Packed Lunches using guidelines from School Food Trust and Department of Health. We ask that parents follow these guidelines when sending in packed lunches and ensure that snacks for break time are fruit only too (no crisps or chocolate biscuits please). Many thanks for your support with this.

Packed lunches should include:

- at least one portion of fruit and/or one portion of vegetables every day;
- lean meat, fish, eggs or other source of non-dairy protein (eg lentils, kidney beans chickpeas, hummus, falafel) every day;
- oily fish;
- a starchy food such as wholemeal bread, wrap, pitta pocket, plain bread sticks, plain crackers, plain unsalted rice cakes, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, potatoes or other type of cereals every day;
- dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais or custard;
- a drink - only still water, unsweetened fruit juice, semi-skimmed or skimmed unflavoured milk, flavoured milk (occasionally as this has more added sugar than plain milk)

If you wish to move your child to packed lunches at any time, please let us know *a term in advance*, as produce is ordered in advance. Packed lunch children can also choose to have a school dinner on Fridays and for special occasions - please just email school.

PTA Reminders

Film night - is Friday 18th October if you haven't signed up yet please follow [this link](#).

Bags2schools - Drop off on Thursday 17th & Friday 18th October (not before please)

Starry Night Christmas Crafts and Non-Uniform Day - is Friday 29th November to help the children complete a Christmas craft and decorate a Star for a loved one to hang on the Village Green Christmas Tree.

For more details refer to the [PTA newsletter](#).

Autumn 2 Diary Dates to Note:

November 2024	
Children return to school	Monday 4th November
Swimming continues for Years 3 & 4 Year 1 & 2 in the sports hall	Tuesday 5th November
Remembrance Day Service - 10.45am Village Green	Monday 11th November
Federation Day - Inter Faith Week - venues and details TBC - Reception and Nursery Children will remain in school, on this occasion.	Monday 18th November
Flu Immunisation	Friday 22nd November
December 2024	

Christingle Service - 9.20am St Helen's Church	Tuesday 3rd December
Christmas Experience - Children only	Tuesday 10th December
Nursery & Reception Christmas Performance - School Hall 9.30am	Wednesday 11th December
Nursery & Reception Christmas Performance - School Hall 9.30am	Thursday 12th December
Christmas Afternoon Performance Years 1,2,3 & 4 School Hall 2.00pm	Thursday 12th December
Christmas Evening Performance Years 1, 2,3 & 4 School Hall 6.00pm	Thursday 12th December
Christmas Jumper Day for RE Chosen Charities, children's Christmas dinner	Wednesday 18th December
Christmas Carols on the village green @ 2.30pm (weather permitting)	Wednesday 18th December
Christmas Party Day - Children wear non-uniform Break up for Christmas	Friday 20th December